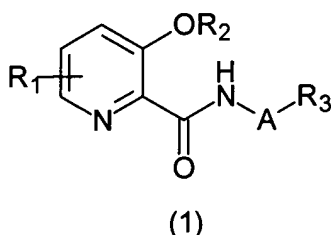


Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A picolinamide compound represented by formula (1) or a salt thereof:



wherein

A represents a bond, an alkylene chain having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or 2,5-dichloro-1,5-pentyl;

R₁ represents one or more groups, which may be the same or different, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, ~~alkoxy~~, alkoxy and haloalkoxy;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, alkyl or alkanoyl, wherein the benzyl group may be substituted by nitro or methoxy, and the alkyl group may be substituted by methoxy or methoxyethoxy; and

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl or a heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furyl, benzofuranyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl, quinolinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, oxiranyl, tetrahydrofuryl, perhydropyranal, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl and morpholinyl,

wherein the cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl may be substituted by one, two or more groups selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, carboxyl, hydroxyl, phenyl which may be substituted by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, alkylamino, alkanoylamino, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and

wherein the aryl or heterocyclic group may be substituted by one or two or more groups selected from the group consisting of:

a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxyl, formyl, carboxyl, carbamoyl or thiocarbamoyl;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, wherein said groups are straight-chain or branched groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ alkenyl or straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ alkenyloxy;

haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio, haloalkylsulfinyl or haloalkylsulfonyl, wherein said groups are straight-chain or branched groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms that each have 1 to 13 halogen atoms which may be the same or different;

straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ haloalkenyloxy or straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ haloalkenyloxy, wherein said groups each have 1 to 11 halogen atoms which may be the same or different;

acylamino, N-acyl-N-alkylamino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfonyloxy, hydroxyiminoalkyl, or alkoxyiminoalkyl, wherein said groups each have straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

alkylene, dioxyalkylene or polyoxaalkylene, wherein said groups may be substituted by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched haloalkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, which has 1 to 11 halogen atoms which may be the same or different, and are present as a chain which is substituted in its both ends at adjacent positions on the ring to form a ring; and

cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, arylsulfonyl, arylamino, arylalkyl, arylalkyloxy, aryloxyalkyloxy, arylthioalkyloxy, aryloxyalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, arylalkylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylthioalkyl, heterocyclic group, heterocyclic oxy, heterocyclic thio, heterocyclic alkyl, heterocyclic alkyloxy or heterocyclic alkylthio, wherein alkyl is straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

~~excluding the case where R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, A represents a bond or a methylene chain, and R₃ represents phenyl or cyclohexyl, the case where R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, A represents a bond or an alkylene chain and R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, and the case where R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, A represents a bond, and R₃ represents adamantyl and phenylalkyl atoms.~~

Claim 2 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein

R₁ is alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R₂ is alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or alkanoyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R₃ is cycloalkyl having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, monocyclic or polycyclic 3- to 12-membered aryl or 3- to 12-membered heterocyclic group.

Claim 3 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1 or 2, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of a bond, methylene chain, 1,1- or 1,2-ethylene chain, 1,1-, 1,2-, 1,3-, or 2,2-propylene chain, 2-methyl-1,3-propylene chain, 1,1-, 1,2-, 1,3-, 1,4-, 2,2-, 2,3-, or 2,4-butylene chain, 3,3-dimethyl-1,4-butylene chain, 1,1,3,3-tetramethyl-1,4-butylene chain, hexamethylene chain, heptamethylene chain, octamethylene chain, nonamethylene chain, decamethylene chain, undecamethylene chain, dodecamethylene chain, 1,5-pentyl chain and 2,5-dichloro-1,5-pentyl chain.

Claim 4 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is methoxy, ethoxy, 1-propyloxy, isopropyloxy, 1-butyloxy, 2-butyloxy, t-butyloxy, and R₁ is trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, fluoromethoxy, difluorochloromethoxy or trifluoroethoxy.

Claim 5 (Currently amended) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a ~~hydrogen atom,~~ 4-methoxy, 6-methoxy, 4,5-dimethoxy, or 4,6-dimethoxy.

Claim 6 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₂ is p-nitrobenzyl, p-methoxybenzyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethoxymethyl, isobutyryl, acetyl, propionyl, or pivaloyl.

Claim 7 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, acetyl or propionyl.

Claim 8 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₃ is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, cyclodecyl, cycloundecyl, cyclododecyl, cyclohexenyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, cyclododeca-trienyl, indanyl, norbornyl, or adamantyl.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₃ is phenyl, or naphthyl.

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₃ is an aryl or heterocyclic group substituted by a substituent selected from cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, arylsulfonyl, arylamino, arylalkyl, arylalkyloxy, aryloxyalkyloxy, arylthioalkyloxy, aryloxyalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, arylalkylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylthioalkyl, heterocyclic group, heterocyclic oxy, heterocyclic thio, heterocyclic alkyl,

heterocyclic alkyloxy or heterocyclic alkylthio, the substituent being further substituted by one, two or more groups selected from the group consisting of:

a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxyl, formyl, carboxyl, carbamoyl or thiocarbamoyl;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl, wherein said groups are straight-chain or branched groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ alkenyl or straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ alkenyloxy;

haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio, haloalkylsulfinyl or haloalkylsulfonyl, wherein said groups are straight-chain or branched groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms that each have 1 to 13 halogen atoms which may be the same or different;

straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ haloalkenyl or straight-chain or branched C₂-C₆ haloalkenyloxy, wherein said groups each have 1 to 11 halogen atoms which may be the same or different;

acylamino, N-acyl-N-alkylamino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfonyloxy, hydroxyiminoalkyl or alkoxyiminoalkyl, wherein said groups each have straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

alkylene, dioxyalkylene or polyoxaalkylene, wherein said groups may be substituted by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, straight-chain or branched haloalkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, which has 1 to 11 halogen atoms which may be the same or different, and are present as a chain which is substituted in its both ends at adjacent positions on the ring to form a ring; and

cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms or aryl, wherein said groups may be substituted by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and straight-chain or branched haloalkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms that has 1 to 11 halogen atoms which may be the same or different.

Claim 13 (Previously presented) The picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R₃ is selected from the group consisting of:

a hydrogen atom, 4-phenoxyphenyl, 4-(4'-t-butylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-(3'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl, 3-phenoxyphenyl, 2-phenoxyphenyl, 4-benzylphenyl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenoxy)phenyl, 3-trifluoromethyl-4-(4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl or 4-(4'-phenylphenoxy)phenyl;

4-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl or 4-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl;

4-(4'-methylphenoxy)-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-chloro-4-phenoxyphenyl, 4-phenoxy-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-methyl-4-phenoxyphenyl, or 3-methoxy-4-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl;

4-(2',4'-di-t-butylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-(3',5'-di-t-butylphenoxy)phenyl, 3-chloro-4-(4'-chlorophenoxy)phenyl, 3-methyl-4-(4'-methoxyphenoxy)phenyl, 1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl, 3-chloro-4-(4'-methoxyphenoxy)phenyl, 3-chloro-4-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl, 3-methyl-4-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-(4'-trifluoromethoxyphenoxy)phenyl or 4-(3'-trifluoromethoxyphenoxy)phenyl;

3-methyl-4-(4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-(4'-methylphenoxy)-2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-di-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-benzyloxyphenyl, cyclododecyl, cyclooctyl, 1-adamantyl, 1-adamantanemethyl, 4-cyclohexylphenyl, 3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 4-(4'-nitrophenoxy)phenyl, 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenoxyphenyl, 4-(4'-N-isopropylaminophenoxy)phenyl, 4-(4'-isobutyrylpiperazin-1'-yl)phenyl, 2-methylcyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclobutyl, 4-(2'-phenoxyethyloxy)phenyl, 4-(3'-phenoxypropyloxy)phenyl, 4-(3'-phenylpropyloxy)phenyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, phenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-t-butylphenyl, 4-neopentylphenyl, 2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 3,5-di-t-butylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 2-phenylcyclopropyl, cyclohexyl, 1-cyclohexenyl, 4-phenetyloxyphenyl, 3-chloro-4-phenetyloxyphenyl, 4-(4'-chlorophenetyloxy)phenyl, 4-methylcyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, 3-methyl-4-(3'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-t-butyl-2-chlorophenyl, 4-t-butyl-2,6-dimethylphenyl, 5-t-butylisoxazol-3-yl, or 4-t-butylthiazol-2-yl;

4-phenylthiophenyl, 2-methoxy-4-phenoxyphenyl, 3-(3-pyridyl)phenyl, 4-phenylaminophenyl or 4-(4-morpholinyl)phenyl; and

1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl, 4-(4'-aminophenoxy)phenyl, 4-benzoylphenyl, 1-indanyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphtho-1-yl, 1-homopiperidinyl, 2-hydroxycyclohexyl or 4-hydroxycyclohexyl.

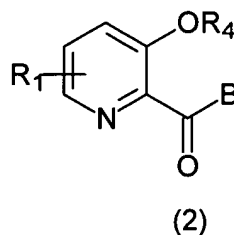
Claims 14-15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Previously presented) A method for treating plant pathogenic fungi infectious diseases, comprising the step of applying the picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1 to agricultural and gardening plants.

Claims 17-28 (Cancelled)

Claim 29 (Previously presented) A process for producing a picolinamide compound represented by formula (1) as defined in claim 1 or a salt thereof, which process comprises:

reacting a picolinic acid compound represented by formula (2) or a salt thereof



wherein

B represents hydroxyl, a halogen atom or alkoxy;

R₁ is as defined in claim 1; and

R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or alkanoyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, in which the groups other than the hydrogen atom may be substituted by one, two or more groups selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, carboxyl, hydroxyl, phenyl which may be substituted

by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, alkylamino, alkanoylamino, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

excluding the case where R₁ represents 4-methoxy with R₄ representing hydrogen or benzyl,

with H₂N-A-R₃, wherein A and R₃ are as defined in claim 1, in an inert solvent in the presence of a condensation agent or an acid linking agent, or under aminolysis reaction conditions; and

acylating the resultant reaction product.

Claim 30 (Previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, methoxy, ethoxy, methoxymethoxy, benzyloxy and 4-methoxybenzyloxy.

Claim 31 (Previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein R₁ represents methoxy, ethoxy, 1-propyloxy, isopropoxy, 1-butyloxy, 2-butyloxy, t-butyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, fluoromethoxy, difluorochloromethoxy or trifluoroethoxy.

Claim 32 (Previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, p-nitrobenzyl, p-methoxybenzyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethoxymethyl or diphenylmethyl.

Claim 33 (Previously presented) A process for controlling deuteromyces, ascomycotina, or basidiomycetes on a plant, comprising the step of applying the picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1 to the plant.

Claim 34 (Previously presented) A process for controlling a plant disease selected from a group consisting of rice blast, cucumber anthracnose, powdery mildew of

cucumber and wheat leaf rust, comprising the step of applying the picolinamide compound or salt thereof according to claim 1 to a plant.

Claim 35 (Previously presented) A composition comprising an anti-fungal amount of the compound according to claim 1 and an inert carrier or adjuvant.